Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-7 (Canceled).

Claim 8. (New) A method for controlling operation of a fuel-injected internal combustion engine having at least a first injection phase and a second injection phase, the method comprising:

causing the start of a drive control for the second injection phase to take place a first predetermined time period after the end of a drive control for the first injection phase, wherein the first time period is predetermined such that a fuel conveying start for the second injection phase takes place a respective second predetermined time period after the end of the drive control for the first injection phase.

Claim 9. (New) The method of claim 8, wherein the first time period is predetermined based on at least the second predetermined time period and a closing time of a setting means for influencing timing of injections.

Claim 10. (New) The method of claim 8, further comprising:

predetermining the second time period based on a speed of the engine.

Claim 11. (New) The method of claim 8, further comprising:

correcting a time value for one of a duration of and an end of the drive control for the second injection phase based on the start of fuel conveying for the second injection phase.

Claim 12. (New) The method of claim 11, wherein the correction is determined based on a comparison of a learned value and a target value for the start of the fuel conveying.

Claim 13. (New) A device for controlling operation of a fuel-injected internal combustion engine having at least a first injection phase and a second injection phase,

comprising:

a first means for causing the start of a drive control for the second injection phase to take place a first predetermined time period after the end of a drive control for the first injection phase; and

a second means for predetermining the first time period such that a fuel conveying start for the second injection phase takes place a respective second predetermined time period after the end of the drive control for the first injection phase.